



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Old Croton  
Aqueduct  
Trail**  
*New York*



# Old Croton Aqueduct Trail

New York

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## Overview

The Old Croton Aqueduct Trail spans 26.5 miles across West Chester County, NY. It is often a singletrack dirt pathway that winds through communities and trees and provides an oasis of green just north of the Bronx.

## About the Route

The Old Croton Aqueduct Trail gives visitors a lesson in New York history, starting from the north at the New Croton Dam. The northern endpoint of the trail is located to the right of the dam, and as you head south, you'll quickly pass the first of 21 remaining ventilators, 10- to 14-foot-high structures that were placed at roughly 1-mile intervals to allow fresh air to reach the water in the

aqueduct.

After about 3 miles, you'll reach the town of Crotonville, one of several small towns along the trail. Another 2 miles farther is Ossining. This northern tip of the trail up to Ossining will be the most comfortable for horseback riders. The trail crosses many public streets along its 26 miles. Drivers tend to yield to trail users, but use caution at these crossings, which get more numerous as the trail continues south and enters urban areas.

Walkers can enjoy the trail's entire length; cyclists and other trail users may use the path as well but may find some sections difficult to traverse. Cyclists will need to be comfortable biking on the sidewalks and roadways of several streets of varying traffic volumes and speeds. Travelers should particularly use caution in the section of the trail following Albany Post Road, which has no sidewalks or shoulders, for about 0.3 mile south of Scarborough. Here walkers and casual cyclists will want to follow a 0.8-mile detour, which goes right on Scarborough Station Road, left on River Road, and left on Creighton Road back to the trail.

Follow the trail another 3 miles to the town of Sleepy Hollow, home of the legend of the Headless Horseman; this is another section of the trail that equestrians may enjoy. Rockefeller State Park Preserve, which offers a bridle path, is also nearby (though equestrians must have a permit).

Trail users get views of the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge (formerly known as the Tappan Zee Bridge) about 2.5 miles south of Sleepy Hollow. A new shared-use path runs along the bridge and provides a nonmotorized crossing of the Hudson River.

About 0.5 mile south of the bridge, the trail crosses through Lyndhurst, the site of a Gothic Revival mansion where cyclists are asked to dismount and walk through the park. Take the time to walk through Lyndhurst and enjoy its well-manicured landscaping.



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**States:** New York

**Counties:** Bronx, Westchester

Length: 26.5 miles

**Trail end points:** Croton Dam Rd. (Croton-on-Hudson) to Van Cortlandt Park (Bronx)

**Trail surfaces:** Crushed Stone, Dirt, Grass, Gravel

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Horseback Riding, Mountain Biking, Walking, Cross Country Skiing

## Parking & Trail Access

The Old Croton Aqueduct Trail runs between Croton Dam Rd. (Croton-on-Hudson) and Van Cortlandt Park (Bronx).

Parking can be found at:

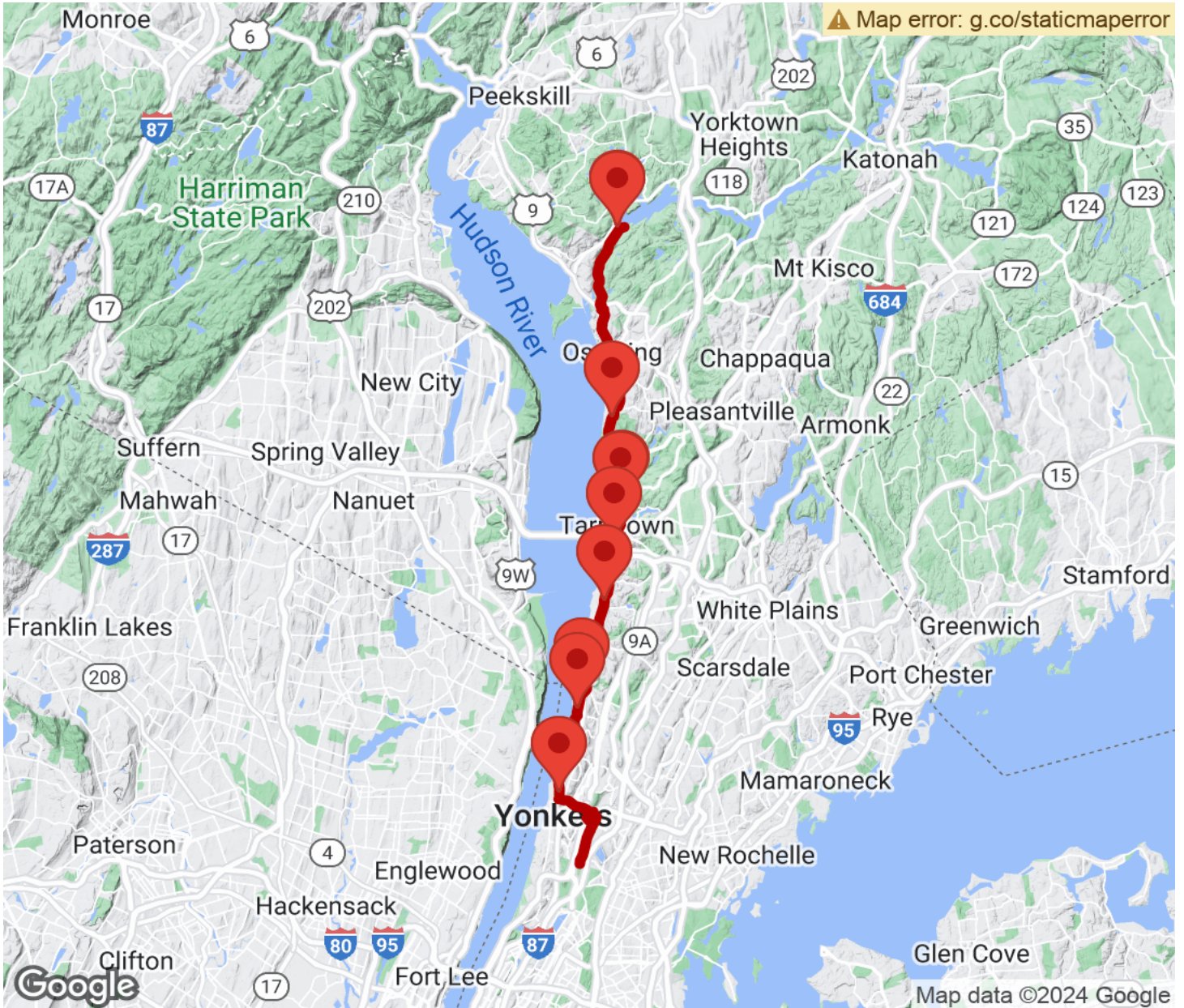
- Croton Gorge Park, 35 Hudson Rd. (Croton-on-Hudson)
- 15 Walnut St. (Dobbs Ferry)
- Draper Park, 80 Washington Ave. (Hastings-on-Hudson)

See [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



# Old Croton Aqueduct Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



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by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

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